

Appln. No. 10/067,719
Amendment dated March 30, 2004
Reply to the Office Action of January 9, 2004.

REMARKS

Claims 2- 8 and 10 - 23 are pending in this application. Claims 1 - 5, 8 and 10-19 are rejected. Claims 6, 7 and 20 - 23 are allowed. Claim 1 is canceled. Claims 2, 3, 8, 10, and 12-18 are amended.

The Objection to Claim 12

Claim 12 depended originally from Claim 1 and is objected to because the use of the term "about" before 25% is inconsistent with the recitation in Claim 1 which sets the lower limit of micropore-forming directing agent to 25%. Claim 12 is amended herein to depend from Claim 6 which also uses the term "about". Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the grounds for this objection have been overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

The Rejection of the Claims Based on Prior Acts

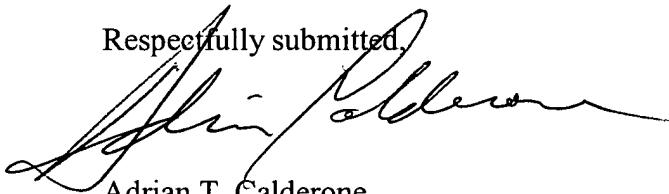
Claims 1-5, 8 and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,004,527 ("Murrell et al.") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,338,672 ("Hayden et al.").

Applicants respectfully disagree with the arguments in the Office Action in support of the rejection. Nevertheless, to further prosecution of this application, Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice and Claims 2, 3, 8, 10, and 12-18 are amended to change dependency from Claim 1 to allowed Claim 6. Accordingly, all claims pending in this

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application are submitted to be allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and grant of an allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Adrian T. Calderone
Registration No. 31,746
Attorney for Applicant(s)

DILWORTH & BARRESE, LLP.
333 Earle Ovington Boulevard
Uniondale, New York 11553
Tel: (516) 228-8484
Fax: (516) 228-8516

ATC:mg